



State Board of Education Request for
Freeway School Accreditation

Name of Requesting School:	South Bend Hebrew Day School		
Board Date:	September 2, 2009	Grade Span:	PK-08
Education Director:	Kerrie Drury	Public or Private:	Private
Location Address:	206 W 8th Street	Enrollment:	66
City/Town:	Mishawaka, Indiana 46544	Targeted Student Population:	Jewish Students in Greater South Bend Area

Indiana Department of Education
Office of School Accreditation and Awards

The following executive summary has been compiled by the Division of Educator Licensing and School Accreditation for use by the Indiana State Board of Education. It includes information presented by the school during the accreditation process, potential legal standard issues, and any other information collected during the process that may impact accreditation.

Summary of Materials Presented to the Board:

- 1. Identity** – “The only school of its kind between Indianapolis and Chicago, the South Bend Hebrew Day School has attained a reputation for an excellent bilingual program through the use of a teaching philosophy that emphasizes understanding, caring, and an open approach to education. As a private religious institution, the South Bend Hebrew Day School has consistently held dual goals: the transmission of traditional Jewish values and culture and the provision of an excellent academic education to all children.”

“South Bend Hebrew Day School’s secular academic programs offer a full course of study designed to meet the needs of students. The school’s curriculum is aligned with standards adopted by the Indiana State Board of Education and is designed to enable students to share personal strengths, explore interests, and discover new areas of individual development. All faculty members provide enrichment of the curriculum, incorporating hands-on experiences that enhance and extend students’ skills. Small class sizes, ranging between six and twelve students, allow teachers to use flexible grouping strategies with research-verifiable best practices to provide an abundance of individual teaching and enrichment opportunities.”

- 2. Attendance** – “...attendance rate that is above state average. While there are several religious observances that contribute to some variation in yearly attendance rates, we will continue to stress the importance of attendance and make every effort to minimize the number of days students miss due to observances which require consecutive days of absence; thus, causing students to lose instructional time which cannot truly be regained. Our goal is to become an Exemplary School (top 95th percentile) in the area of

attendance, to ensure that our students are receiving the maximum benefit from their Jewish Day School education.”

3. Graduation – Not Applicable

4. **Benchmarks** –“A. The South Bend Hebrew Day School will consistently maintain an average attendance rate of 95% or better. B. The South Bend Hebrew Day School will continue to use the ISTEP+ for grades 3-8 and the TerraNova 3 for grades 1 and 2, as both a formative and summative assessment of student progress. C. The South Bend Hebrew Day School teachers and administrators will continue to review the TerraNova 3 and ISTEP+ results to assess instructional effectiveness, curriculum trends and student achievement. D. The South Bend Hebrew Day School will continue to provide individualized remedial and enrichment programs in both Judaic and General Studies to meet the needs of each student and to help bridge the gap between learning deficits and mastery of academic standards.
5. **Staffing** – All General Studies staff members at the South Bend Hebrew Day School are licensed by the Indiana Department of Education. All staff members teach within their credentialed areas. Beginning school year 2009-2010, there will be three exceptions: Library Media Specialist—the teacher who will serve in this capacity has a Master’s of Education in Curriculum, Technology, and Education Reform, and holds a valid Indiana teaching certificate in Elementary Education. Technology Specialist—the teacher who will serve in this capacity has a Master’s of Education in Curriculum, Technology, and Education Reform, and holds a valid Indiana teaching certificate in Elementary Education. School Principal—the person who will serve as the head principal of the school holds a Master’s of Education in Administration and Supervision from Loyola University’s Jewish Education Leadership Institute. Although he does not hold an Indiana teaching license, he has taught Jewish Studies for eight years.”

Waiver Requests:

- IC 20-30-5 Health Education, Safety Education & Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drug Education:
“The areas of character development, safety education, and alcohol, tobacco and drug education are an integral part of classroom instruction and practice of Jewish Law. They are taught, practiced, and modeled throughout the school day in both General and Jewish Studies.”
- IC 20-20-5-1 through IC 20-26-12-24; IC 20-26-12-28; 511 IAC 6.1-5-5 Textbook adoption:
“The Jewish and General Studies curriculum are designed by the faculty to provide excellence in both spiritual and intellectual development. Texts are selected by administration and staff to provide the most appropriate educational information, experiences, and purposes of our school. All texts must be aligned with the mission of the school. The SBHDS utilizes previous state-approved textbooks supplemented with religious and secular books approved by our staff. Teachers also prepare their own materials, using Indiana Academic Standards as a guide. In addition, outdated materials, which continue to prove effective, support our mission, and enhance the curriculum, continue to be used.”

Issues:

- Teacher Licensing

Recommendations: Five Year Freeway Accreditation

Rationale: The Freeway legislation does not require a non-public school to employ licensed teachers. After discussions with school officials, staff licensing meets typical licensing in other Freeway schools.